

# Big Bend

## Ranger Programs

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Big Bend National Park  
Rio Grande Wild & Scenic River



**July 24 - August 6, 2016**

### **Tuesday, July 26**

**9:30 AM Guided Walk – “Strategies for Survival”** Our local environment may seem a less than ideal place to call home, but organisms – from ants to bears, even lichens – have developed creative ways to survive. Join Ranger J. Fenstermacher to learn about nature’s perspective on the secrets to survival. Meet at the Window View trailhead in the Chisos Basin. Bring water, a hat, and good walking shoes. 1/3 mile walk. 1 hour.

### **Thursday, July 28**

**9:30 AM Guided Walk – “Living with Bears”** Today, Big Bend offers visitors the rare opportunity to spot a bear. But it has not always been that way. Join Volunteer R. Yearian to learn more about the disappearance and return of the Mexican Black Bear. Meet at the Chisos Basin Trailhead. Wheelchair accessible. Bring water and a hat. 1/3 mile walk. 45 minutes.

**10:15 PM Evening Program – “Star-gazing with Binoculars and the Naked Eye”** You don’t need a telescope to locate and enjoy many of the natural wonders in the night skies over Big Bend National Park. Join Volunteer R. Wonite for a laser-guided tour of the more prominent stars, star clusters and nebulae in the sky, weather permitting. Meet at the pullout at Mile 15.3 on the road to Rio Grande Village. Wheelchair accessible. Bring binoculars and/or a chair if you have them. 1 hour.

### **Friday, July 29**

**9:30 AM Program – “The Desert: It Wants to Kill You”** Big Bend can be a dangerous place to visit, but don’t let that scare you from exploring the park and having fun. Join Ranger a. Marini to learn about the dangers of the desert and what you can do to stay safe and keep the park wild. Meet at the patio outside the Chisos Mountains Lodge. Wheelchair accessible. 1 hour.

### **Thursday, August 4**

**9:30 AM Guided Walk – “Blurred Horizons”** As one looks across the vistas of Big Bend, both physical horizons and cultural horizons meet. Are the views we see today the same as they were 1000 years ago, or 10,000 years ago? Join Ranger B. Frohbieter for a discussion of Big Bend’s changing climates, changing inhabitants, and a window into the vistas of the past. Meet at the Chisos Basin Trailhead. Wheelchair accessible. 1/3 mile. 45 minutes.

**10:15 PM Evening Program – “Star-gazing with Binoculars and the Naked Eye”** You don’t need a telescope to locate and enjoy many of the natural wonders in the night skies over Big Bend National Park. Join Volunteer R. Wonite for a laser-guided tour of the more prominent stars, star clusters and nebulae in the sky, weather permitting. Meet at the pullout at Mile 15.3 on the road to Rio Grande Village. Wheelchair accessible. Bring binoculars and/or a chair if you have them. 1 hour.

### **Friday, August 5**

**9:30 AM Guided Walk – “Strategies for Survival”** Our local environment may seem a less than ideal place to call home, but organisms – from ants to bears, even lichens – have developed creative ways to survive. Join Ranger J. Fenstermacher to learn about nature’s perspective on the secrets to survival. Meet at the Window View trailhead in the Chisos Basin. Bring water, a hat, and good walking shoes. 1/3 mile walk. 1 hour.

### **Saturday, August 6**

**9:30 AM Guided Walk – “Life at the Windmill”** The desert may seem to be an impossible place to live but a significant number of living things thrive in this extreme environment. Join Ranger B. Smith for an hour of discovery and exploration into the secret, and not so secret, stories of life at the windmill. Meet at Dugout Wells, six miles south of Panther Junction Visitor Center. Bring water and a hat. ¼ mile. 1 hour.